

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the non-final Office Action dated August 3, 2006, issued in connection with the above-identified application. Claims 1-12 were previously canceled, and claims 13-19 remain pending in the application. With this Response, no claims have been amended, and no new matter has been introduced. Thus, favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. Response To §103 Rejections

Claims 13-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodward et al. (U.S. Application No. 2004/0203685, hereafter “Woodward”) in view of Alperovich et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,819,180, hereafter “Alperovich”). Claims 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodward in view of Alperovich, and further in view of Russell (U.S. Application No. 2004/0249915, hereafter “Russell”). Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodward in view of Alperovich, and further in view of Shaheen et al. (U.S. Application No. 2004/0228312, hereafter “Alperovich”). Finally, claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodward in view of Alperovich, and further in view of Heutschi (U.S. Patent No. 2004/0176092, hereafter “Heutschi”). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections noted above.

In the Office Action, the Examiner relies primarily on Woodward in view of Alperovich for teaching or suggesting all the features recited in at least independent claim 13. However, after a detailed review of these references, the Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 13 is directed to a method of operating terminals of a mobile radio communication system in a local wireless network. The method includes storing access information on a terminal, wherein the access information includes at least first and second items of identification information. The first item provides identification information related to the mobile radio communication system, and the second item provides information about a local area network. More specifically, the second item provides information about the location and type of local area network as well as information about services provided by the local area network. Neither Woodward nor Alperovich teach or suggest these features of the present invention.

Woodword is directed generally to a portable communication device with nodes that can request a service or request a server to perform a service (see, Woodward, Abstract). In the Office Action, the Examiner relies on page 2, paragraph 20; and page 3, paragraphs 29, and 32-34 of Woodward. However, page 2, paragraph 20 mentions only that the communication modules within a communication device employ a variety of wireless communication protocols, without stating anything more. Additionally, page 3, paragraph 29 states only that the service manager within a communication device maintains a list of services or capabilities that are available to a user at a particular node. Similarly, page 3, paragraphs 32-34 described in more detail services, capabilities, etc., that are available between nodes in a portable communication device.

What is noteworthy about the above sections of Woodward is that they deal exclusively with communication and services available between nodes of the same portable communication device. This point is clearly illustrated in at least Fig. 2 of Woodward. As seen in Fig. 2, the nodes 201, 202 are subcomponents of the portable device 50. The sections relied on by the Examiner describe communications between these two nodes 201, 202, and there is no description of information used by the nodes 201, 202 regarding communication or services available outside the portable communications device. Conversely, in the present invention, access information in a terminal includes a second item of identification information that provides information regarding the location and type of local area network as well as information regarding services provided by the local area network.

Moreover, nothing in page 2, paragraph 20; or page 3 paragraphs 29, and 32-34 of Woodward teach or suggest even the use of access information, let alone access information containing all the features, as claimed (e.g., first and second items of identification information).

Aplerovich discloses an automatic call generator that automatically initiates an outgoing call from a mobile station within a public Land Mobile Network (PLMN). The mobile station uses a SIM card that stores the number of the called party if the party is located outside the mobile subscriber's designated home zone. Similar to Woodward, nothing in Aplerovich teaches or suggests the use of use of access information, let alone access information containing all the features, as claimed (e.g., first and second items of identification information).

Finally, Russell, Shaheen and Heutschi do not appear to overcome the deficiencies noted above in Woodward. Thus, even if one of ordinary skill in the art were combine the teachings of Woodward, Aplerovich, Russell, Shaheen and Heutschi, the combination still would not teach or suggest all the feature recited in at least independent claim 13.

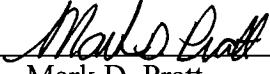
Accordingly, independent claim 13 is distinguished over the cited references. Additionally, dependent claims 14-19 are also distinguished over the cited references based on their dependency from independent claim 13.

II. Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of all the rejections and allowance of the application. If there are any additional fees that are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Director is authorized to deduct those fees from Deposit Account No. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate Attorney Docket No. 0112740-1078 on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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